

GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Subject: Availability of 2009 Utility Consumer Participation Fund Grants

Public Act 304 of 1982, as amended (Act 304) provides for the establishment and implementation of gas and power supply cost recovery clauses in the rates and rate schedules of public utilities. The Utility Consumer Participation Board (UCPB) and the Utility Consumer Representation Fund (UCRF) were further created by the Act to achieve equitable representation of interests of energy utility customers in energy cost recovery proceedings. The purpose of the UCPB is to make grants from the Act 304 Utility Consumer Representation Fund (UCRF) to qualified nonprofit organizations and local units of government to represent the interests of residential utility customers in energy cost recovery and reconciliation proceedings before the Michigan Public Service Commission, other state and federal agencies, and the courts.

Approximately \$900,000 (subject to the State of Michigan appropriation process) may be available for the fiscal year beginning 10/01/2008.

Grant applications from eligible nonprofit organizations and local units of government are being sought by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth. Successful applicants will propose strategies to be pursued by qualified legal representatives experienced with utility regulation and Act 304 proceedings.

If you are interested in developing a grant application for these funds, it is recommended that you thoroughly review the application which includes all requirements and instructions. The deadline for application requests is July 18, 2008. Completed grant applications are due on or before August 8, 2008.

To receive a grant application, please send a request and complete return contact information to Robin Bennett via email at DLEGUCPB@Michigan.gov or U.S. Mail at:

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Finance and Administrative Services
Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth
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Information is available on the web at www.michigan.gov/dleg, select "Agencies & Commissions" then "Utility Consumer Participation Board." For questions or further information on the UCPB, UCRF or the grant process, contact Michelle Wilsey at wilseym@casair.net. Please include UCRF_09 in the subject line.